

THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1917.

WHOLE NUMBER 1167

CAPT. HAROLD E. MONTAGUE



Captain Montague has invented a new submersible which the United States government is trying out. A new feature of the submarine is its one-man control and absence of electric motors.

FRENCH PURSUIT HOT

Capture Ten Villages in Advance Toward St. Quentin.

Headquarters of Kaiser for Two Years Now Within Sight of Republic's Infantry.

Paris, March 22.—Rapid progress is being made by the French in pursuit of the retreating Germans, the war office announces. Important gains were made on both sides of the Laon road.

After a severe fight in which heavy losses were sustained the French carried Savriennes castle and the village of Jussy, about nine miles south of St. Quentin. Skirmishes between French cavalry and German detachments occurred on the Ham-St. Quentin road. South of Chauny the French are occupying the Allette line and consolidating their new positions.

A German surprise attack in the Champagne was repulsed. The statement follows:

"On the Ham-St. Quentin road skirmishes occurred east of Ham between our cavalry and detachments of the enemy. Our troops late yesterday in a brilliant action captured the Savriennes castle and the village of Jussy, notwithstanding spirited resistance of the garrison. South of Chauny we are occupying the general line of the Allette. All positions reached are being organized thoroughly. North and northeast of Soissons we made important progress to the right and left of the Laon road, capturing ten more villages.

"On the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) we penetrated a German trench north of Chambray, after subjecting it to a bombardment, and found there a number of German dead. Surprise attacks against small French posts southeast of Ture, in the Willy wood and in the region of Limey, were repulsed completely. We took prisoners."

St. Quentin, reputed headquarters of the German emperor and his general staff for two years following the battle of the Marne, and scene of a great French defeat in the war of 1870 is today within sight of the French infantry, who are following fast on the heels of the retreating German army.

Twelve miles to the south French troops are looking down also upon La Fere and are within reach of the German heavy guns if the Germans have really elected to hold the famous Hindenburg line, running from Lille to Laon.

TWO PLEAD GUILTY IN PLOT

Albert Sander and Charles Wunnenberg, Members of Film Exchange, to Be Sentenced.

New York, March 22.—Albert O. Sander and Charles N. Wunnenberg, indicted as members of the Central Powers War Film Exchange on the charge of engaging in a military enterprise and sending spies to England to get information for the German military authorities, pleaded guilty. They will be sentenced later.

Petersburg.—Sam Wakefield was fatally burned by the explosion of a boiler at the sawmill.

McMinnville.—Much interest is being manifested in a union revival meeting at the Presbyterian church.

UNITED STATES ACCEPTS KAISER'S GAGE OF BATTLE

President Calls an Extra Session of Congress in Grave Crisis.

NATION IN STATE OF DEFENSE

Cabinet Officers Take Steps to Speed Up All Work Touching Upon National Defense Plan—Members Are a Unit in Upholding Wilson's Hands.

London, March 22.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent reports that it is rumored that serious riots have broken out in Berlin in connection with the scarcity of food.

Washington, March 22.—The United States is in a state of defense. The administration has accepted Germany's gage of battle. Pacifism has been abandoned. By direct orders from President Wilson the nation is concentrating on its defense plans. In a few words here are the developments:

First—President Wilson called congress to meet in extraordinary session on April 2—the earliest possible moment that the total membership can be brought together—to "receive a communication concerning grave matters of national policy which should be taken immediately under consideration."

Speed Up Mobilization.

Second—Cabinet officers took steps to speed up all work in any way touching upon the national defense program; Secretary Daniels conferred at length with the naval board and Secretary Baker took up with the general staff plans for securing officers from the enlisted personnel of the regular army.

Third—The Council of National Defense, named a "committee on munitions," among whom were the biggest experts of the nation on that subject, to take care of the problem of standardizing plants to furnish guns and munitions for a force as large as may be needed.

Cabinet Is United.

Fourth—Cabinet members nailed as "an absolute falsehood" reports that the cabinet was not a unit in upholding President Wilson's hands in determining that Germany has created a state of war with the United States and that the only reply can be made by congress which, when it assembled, will declare that war exists as the result of Germany's aggression and outrages against American life and American property.

Fifth—Secretary of Commerce Redfield, echoing the sentiment of the entire cabinet, wrote a stinging rebuke to the "Emergency Peace Federation," which asked him to "stave off war and to work for a commission to mediate differences with Germany" by saying: "I believe your organization and doctrine to be directly promotive of attacks upon American citizens and property. . . . You are those who are doing more than anyone else to bring about war."

Sixth—Former President William Howard Taft, en route to Richmond to deliver an address, announced that the organization of which he is the head, "The League to Enforce Peace," will call off its convention which was to be held early in May, and every member will be urged to support the president in the present crisis.

Bids for 200 U-Boat Chasers.

Seventh—Secretary of the Navy Daniels opened bids for construction of 200 additional submarine chasers which will be built by various ship yards at top speed. At the same time arrangements were made to standardize certain factories to turn out gasoline engines for craft of this type at a speed never heretofore attempted.

Eighth—Congressional leaders arranged for caucuses of Republican and Democratic members of the new house before the extra session date in order to perfect organization and prevent delays that might be dangerous.

Session to Be Nonpartisan.

Ninth—Senators still in Washington personally assured the president that the deliberations of the special session will be nonpartisan and will support him in every way.

Washington is not panic-stricken. Officialdom, firmly convinced that the gage has been cast, is fully counting the cost. What this nation will have to do is already accepted as a fact. There is little difference of opinion in official quarters. Among the measures now under consideration, most of which are expected to be ordered carried out, are the following:

Arrangement of a financial alliance

POTATOES NOW ACCEPTED AS LEGAL TENDER



NATION GATHERS WAR RESOURCES

Great Industrial Plants Ready as Navy Is Being Whipped Into Condition.

3,000,000 ARMY IS PLANNED

Hundreds of Big Corporations Have Prepared to Utilize Their Full Efficiency in the Defense of the Country.

Washington, March 22.—All the resources of the United States, industrial as well as military, are speedily being mobilized to place the nation in the fullest state of readiness for war.

For the present the responsibility rests with the navy, which is arming American merchant ships, placing rush orders for submarine chasers, spending \$115,000,000 by special authority of congress to hurry the naval construction already under way, advancing the graduation of classes at Annapolis, protecting American harbors against invasion by German submarines and marshaling the industrial resources necessary to stand behind the fleet.

Plan to Raise Army of 500,000.

Plans for the army are not so fully matured. It is believed, however, that President Wilson will recognize the possibility of the army's participation in war when he addresses congress by discussing the need of universal military training. In a tentative way plans for marshaling the full strength of the regular army, the National Guard and the raising of a volunteer army of 500,000 men have been worked out in the army war college.

The volunteer army of 500,000 is planned as a nucleus of what eventually would be an army of 3,000,000 and would be assembled in training camps.

Corporations Offer Plants.

The mobilization of industrial resources has gone much farther. Hundreds of great corporations, through the efforts of the council of national defense, have prepared themselves to utilize their full efficiency in the defense of the nation.

Henry Ford, the Detroit automobile manufacturer, has offered and the government has accepted his great plant to be operated without profit in the event of war. Charles M. Schwab has announced that his Bethlehem plant, now greater than Krupp's, will be used entirely for the government. The United States Steel Corporation and a hundred other great industrial organizations have been making plans for their participation. Yesterday the great copper interests notified the government that they would supply the army and navy with their vital supplies of copper at about half the market price.

Jackson.—James Arthur, 4-year-old son of March Arthur, suffered a broken leg when he was run over by a street sprinkler.

between the United States—whether official or unofficial to be determined later—which will give the entente allies practically unlimited credit in the United States for the purchase of war supplies of every character.

To Open Ports to Warships.

The opening of all American ports and the establishment within them of coaling and provisioning facilities for the benefit of warships of the entente allies.

The use of the American navy to patrol the North and South Atlantic and a portion of the Pacific, thus relieving

CONGRESS TO CONVENE ON APRIL 2

By Order of President Wilson Declaration That State of War Probably Exists

GERMANY MAY FORCE ISSUE

Armed Forces of Nation—Lawmakers Likely Will Place Half a Billion Dollars at His Disposal.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Washington.—President Wilson met the constantly increasing probability of war with Germany by summoning congress to assemble in extraordinary session Monday, April 2, two weeks earlier than the date he had chosen before the latest assaults upon American rights on the seas. When the President addresses congress he is expected to show how a state of war actually has existed for some time because of the unlawful aggressions of German submarines. Congress is expected formally to declare a state of war is existing, vote a large sum, probably half a billion dollars, for national defense, and clothe the President with authority to use the armed forces of the United States, as it empowered President McKinley to deal with the menace of Spain in 1898.

Such action would not be a declaration of war, except in a technical sense, and whether the United States and Germany actually go to war in the fullest acceptance of the term will depend on what the Imperial Government does before Congress is assembled or after it acts.

Dispatches from abroad declaring that the German Government expected a state of war soon placed an ominous aspect on the situation. Much to change the President's present intentions or the course of the Government in the crisis may develop before April 2. The first American armed ships by that time will have reached the war zone. The ruthless destruction of one of them unquestionably would be an act of war.

On the other hand, sinking of a submarine by one of the armed merchantmen would be met as an act of war by Germany. Even the arming of American ships with the avowed purpose of defending them against U-boats may be declared such an act.

In any of these events practically nothing would remain except for Congress to acknowledge a state of war existing from a certain specified date—probably Sunday, when three American ships were sunk with loss of life. Until Congress meets, will be days of tense anxiety, of eager waiting and watching, fraught with possibilities of tremendous consequences to the United States.

President Wilson and his advisers in the Cabinet and in Congress have given no indication that war shall be declared by the United States. By the hostile acts of German submarines they believe the Imperial German Government is actually making war on the United States, and that it shall be recognized as such a state. To meet such a condition the armed forces of the country and all the national resources are to be put in a state of readiness. Then, whether the nation

FORMER EMPEROR AND CONSORT TO BE LOCKED UP

Nicholas Romanoff and Wife Taken to Tsarskoe-Selo Palace for Safety.

RUSS MINISTER CURBS MOB

Socialist Leader Sways Crowd With Appeal for Fair Trial for the Fallen—Grand Duke Nicholas Is With Army.

London, March 22.—The Russian government has ordered that the deposed emperor and his consort shall be regarded as having been deprived of their liberty and that they shall be taken to the Tsarskoe-Selo palace, so Reuter's Petrograd correspondent telegraphs.

New Minister Curbs the Mob.

Petrograd, March 22.—General political amnesty has been ordered by the provisional government. The order is embodied in the following ukase:

"Yielding to the imperious demands of the national conscience, in the name of historic justice and in commemoration of the definite triumph of the new regime founded upon right and liberty, we order general political amnesty."

One of the men upon whom much depends for the success of the new Russian government is Minister Kerenki of the department of justice. An incident showing his character occurred at a monster meeting of socialists and workmen at the city hall Monday evening.

Among the banners displayed was one which read: "Death to our enemies, the old ministers." Minister Kerenki mounted the platform amid great acclamations. He drew a red handkerchief from his pocket and waved it as he spoke.

"Have I your confidence, yes or no?"

A roar of affirmation was the answer.

"Justice, Not Vengeance."

"Then, listen," he continued. "Russian freedom is based on justice to every man. Those ministers, many of whom are sitting in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul tonight, are entitled to justice, not vengeance. As far as I can prevent it no wrong shall be done to them, but they shall have fair treatment and full justice."

Before Mr. Kerenki had finished his speech the entire assemblage was shouting its approval. The meeting dissolved in quiet and orderly fashion.

Grand Duke Nicholas With Army.

London, March 22.—Russian troops at field headquarters welcomed the revolution with a remarkable demonstration, according to a Petrograd dispatch to Reuter's, quoting a telegram received at the capital from field headquarters. The telegram says that the troops marched in detachments to the public square, waving red flags and singing the Russian "Marsellaise" to the music of their bands. At the request of Grand Duke Nicholas, General Alexieff, chief of staff, read the abdication proclamation of the emperor and exhorted the troops to serve loyally the new government.

Recognized by Orthodox Clergy.

The orthodox clergy at Kiev has recognized the new government. Reuter's Petrograd correspondent reports. Governor General Gondatti of the Siberian province of Amur and General Mestchenko, commander of the troops there, are reported to have been arrested.

The Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz has been arrested and brought before the duma.

Gen. Baron Fredericks, who was Emperor Nicholas' minister of court, has been arrested at Gornel, being taken at the railway station and lodged in a hotel under guard.

Jefferson City.—Dr. Virgin of Rono, Va., and singer, Mr. Hamilton, are conducting a revival at the First Baptist church.

shall enter the war in its fullest sense will depend upon how much farther Germany carries her acts of aggression.

In every sense, war, if it actually comes, will be a defensive war, free from ambitions of spoils or territory in which the United States, the President has publicly declared, shall want nothing for itself and shall seek only to preserve the rights of civilization and humanity. In such a situation the United States might even become an actual participant in the hostilities on the European continent, becoming a political ally of any of the Entente Powers, simply casting its weight of men, money and moral influence into the battle against a common enemy.

GEN. SIR PERCY LAKE



Gen. Sir Percy Lake is in command of the British division operating on the right bank of the Tigris river.

for active service the many entente warships now in use there.

No action has been taken on any of these propositions. They still are in formative stages. But officials point out that they are the next logical steps after congress acts.

To Recognize Rebels.

Washington, March 22.—Formal recognition of the new government of Russia will be made shortly by the United States.

The state department had before it the request of the revolutionary leaders for the diplomatic recognition and moral support of the United States, and it was stated officially that the request will be complied with.

The first communication from the state department by the Russian ambassador, George Bakmeteff.

Mobilize Legislators.

One of the first results of President Wilson's advancement of the date for an extra session of the sixty-fifth congress was a general mobilization of the administration's legislative leaders to prepare to rush crisis legislation through immediately. A Democratic caucus was set for March 30.

Hurry calls were sent out for the absent members of the administration's legislative corps. Speaker Champ Clark and Majority Leader Claude Kitchin will reach Washington tomorrow.

One of the first measures which will be rushed through will be a gigantic appropriation bill for wartime needs of the nation. Estimates today placed the amount to be asked at \$500,000,000. This huge sum will be utilized to put the nation on a war footing—purchase of guns, ammunition, uniforms, horses and other military equipment.

President's Proclamation.

The proclamation calling congress together in extraordinary session as sent to the president for his signature, was as follows:

"By the President of the United States of America.

PROCLAMATION.

"Whereas, The public interest requires that the congress of the United States should be convened in extra session at 12 o'clock noon on the second day of April, 1917, to receive such communications as may be made by the executive and to consider grave questions of national policy, now,

"Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and declare that an extraordinary occasion requires the congress of the United States to convene in extra session at the capital in the City of Washington on the second day of April at 12 o'clock noon, of which all persons who at that time shall be entitled to act as members thereof are hereby required to take notice.

"Given under my hand and seal of the United States of America the 21st day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and forty-first.

(Signed) WOODROW WILSON.

By the president: Robert Lansing, secretary of state.

Tornado Kills Seven.

Little Rock, Ark., March 22.—Seven persons were killed and eight injured when a tornado swept the country in the vicinity of Delaire, Ark. The dead are: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weatherington, Albert Herring, Milton Hutchinson, Mattie Hearn, Lewis Roberts, unidentified man.